

PERFINS OF CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

Most countries have, at one time or another, authorized the use of perfins (perforated initials) by government departments and private firms to deter fraudulent use or theft. Very little information is available concerning the use of perfins in Cape of Good Hope.

The double triangle (illustration 01) was used by the Cape Government Printing and Stationery Department and is discussed in The Encyclopedia of British Empire Postage Stamps (1806-1948), vol. II: The Empire in Africa, published by Robson Lowe, 1st edition, p. 47.

NGR (illustration 20) was used by the Natal Government Railways.

TC/ & S (illustration 24) is almost certain to be Thomas Cook & Sons, since similar dies were used in many other countries.

If any of the readers have perfins on cover, details of the firm's name and location of the firm or a xerox of the covers would be greatly appreciated. Also if any other patterns are known, examples sent to the author will be promptly returned. All additional information gained as a result of this article will be submitted for publication in a later article.

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